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Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OES-09 L-03 EB-08 COME-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02
/064 W
----------044513 021106Z /11
R 011927Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8484
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 6008

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PLOS, BR, OVIP (RICHARSON, ELLIOT L.)
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR RICHARSON'S VISIT TO BRAZIL, JULY 17-25

REF: A) BRASILIA 5790 B) BRASILIA 5861 C) SANTIAGO 5599

1. SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S VISIT TO BRAZIL PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR BOTH FORMAL AND INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH HIGH-LEVEL GOB OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN LOS MATTERS. WHILE SHARP DIFFERENCES REMAIN ON A DEEP SEABED MINING REGIME, THE FRANK EXCHANGES WERE SEEN AS USEFUL BY BOTH SIDES. AMBASSADOR RICHARSON ALSO HAD A WIDE EXPOSURE TO INTELLECTUAL, COMMERCIAL, AND PRESS CIRCLES IN SAO PAULO AND RIO DE JANEIRO AS WELL AND THOUGH THEM WAS ABLE TO REACH A LARGE BRAZILIAN PUBLIC DURING HIS STAY. END SUMMARY.

2. COMMENCING HIS VISIT TO BRAZIL IN BRASILIA ON JULY 17, AMBASSADOR RICHARSON MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA, MINISTER-CHIEF OF PALNNING REIS VELLOSO, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY WHO WAS OUT OF BRASILIA. THE SUBSTANTIVE RECORD
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OF THESE THREE MEETINGS IS CONTAINED IN REFTELS A AND B. IN ADDITION, THE SECRETARY-GENRAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER HOSTED A LUNCHEON FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON ON JULY 18. AMBASSADOR SAYRE'S DINNER FOR THE RICHARDSONS ON JULY 17 BROUGHT TOGETHER A BROAD SPECTRUM OF BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS. ON THE EVENING OF JULY 18 THE CASA THOMAS JEFFERSON--OUR BINATIONAL CENTER--ARRANGED

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A DISCUSSION SESSION WHICH ALSO INCLUDED LEGAL,
UNIVERSITY, AND PRESS REPRESENTATIVES. THE EVENTS
AT AMBASSADOR SAYRE'S RESIDENCE AND THE CASA THOMAS
JEFFERSON INCLUDED MINISTRY OF THE NAVY OFFICIALS
WHO HAD KNOWN AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON FROM LOS SESSIONS.

3. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S VISIT TO SAO PAULO WAS HIGHLIGHTED
BY HIS PUBLIC APPEARANCE BEFORE THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FOR SAO PAULO LUNCHEON ON JULY 20. CROWD OF 230 WAS FAR ABOVE
EXPECTATIONS FOR JULY VACTION PERIOD AND ATTESTED TO HIGH DEGREE
OF INTEREST IN U.S. POLICIES FROM AMERICAN AND BRAZILIAN BUSINESS
COMMUNITIES. SPEECH WAS WELL RECEIVED BY AUDIENCE AND RECEIVED
EXTENSIVE CONVERAGE BY SAO PAULO PRESS. EXCERPTS CARRIED BY USICA
WIRELESS FILE AFR 112, JULY 21.

4. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON ALSO SPOKE TO 30 SELECTED MEMBERS OF
THE SAO PAULO INDUSTRIAL FEDERATION (FIESP) ON JULY 19 AND TO
20 MEMBERS OF THE SAO PAULO LAWYERS ASSOCIATION ON JULY 21.
LATTER MEETING INCLUDED MEMBER OF BRAZILIAN LOS DELEGATION AND
PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR CONSTRUCTIVE INTER-CHANGE OF TECHNICAL
ASPECTS OF FORTHCOMING RESUMED SEVENTH SESSION ON THE LAW OF
THE SEA. A LESS FORMAL PRESENTATION WAS MADE TO 40 MEMBERS OF THE
SAO PAULO COMMERCIAL FEDERATION AT A DINNER IN THE AMBASSADOR'S
HONOR ON JULY 20. ALL OF THESE APPEARANCES WERE WELL RECEIVED
BY THOSE ATTENDING BUT RECEIVED LESS PRESS ATTENTION THAN DID THE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SPEECH.
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5. SERIES OF USEFUL MEETINGS WITH SAO PAULO STATE OFFICIALS
CONCERNED WITH MARINE POLLUTION CONTROL ARE SUMMARIZED IN REFTEL C.

6. A MEETING WITH SAO PAULO GOVERNOR PAULO EGYDIO MARTINS WAS
NOTABLE FOR THE CLOSE RAPPORT QUICKLY ESTABLISHED. THE GOVERNOR
OBVIOUSLY ENJOYED THE MEETING THOROUGHLY AND EXTENDED IT FOR
ALMOST AN HOUR. OTHER MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE SUPREME COURT,
AND THE SAO PAULO PLANNING DIRECTOR WERE PRODUCTIVE BUT MORE
LIMITED IN SCOPE.

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7. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S RIO SCHEDULE INCLUDED TWO SUBSTANTIVE EVENTS, BOTH ON 7/24: A SPEECH/Q&A SESSION AT LUNCEHON GIVEN BY THE BRAZIL-U.S. BUSINESS COUNCIL, AND A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE CONSULATE GENERAL. AT BUSINESS COUNCIL LUNCH, AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON DISPENSED WITH FORMAL LOS SPEDCH PRESENTATION, STATING THAT SPEECH TEXT WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE AT SUBSEQUENT PRESS CONFERENCE. INSTEAD HE SPOKE INFORMALLY ON LOS, THEN RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS, ALLL OF WHICH WERE DIRECTED AT OUTSTANDING U.S.-BRAZILIAN TRADE POLICY ISSUES. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON PREFACED HIS REPLIES WITH CAVEAT THAT, WHILE HIS MISSION IN BRAZIL WAS TO DISCUSS LOS, HE WOULD DO HIS BEST TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS ON GENERAL ECONOMIC MATTERS. THEN, IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS, HE DISCUSSED: (1) SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES WITH RESPECT TO DECLINING INDUSTRIES PARTICULARLY HARD HIT BY IMPORTS; (2) U.S. POLICY REGARDING REGIONAL SUBSIDIES; (3) HOW BUSINESS COUNCIL MIGHT GO ABOUT CONVINCING U.S. AUDIENCE OF NECESSITY FOR BRAZIL'S EXPORT/IMPORT POLICIES (AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED PROGRAM OF SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS IN U.S.); (4) TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ISSUES.
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IN EACH CASE, AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON FORCEFULLY PRESENTED USG POSITON. COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION, BOTH FORMALLY AND IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS AFTER Q&A SESSION, FOR HIS APPEARANCE BEFOREGROUP AND HIS CONGENT, INFORMATIVE REMARKS.

8. PRESS IMPACT. OVERALL, AMB. RICHARDSON PROVED HIGHLY ADEPT AT GETTING HIS MESSAGE ACROSS TO BRAZILIANS VIA THE PRESS. TWO PRINCIPAL OPPORTUNITIES, BESIDES

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A NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS, WERE HIS MEETING IN BRASILIA
WITH ACADEMICS AND NEWSMEN AND HIS PRESS CONFERENCE
IN RIO DE JANEIRO. AFTER BOTH THESE SESSIIONS NEWSMEN
COMMENTED THAT THEY HAD BEEN VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED
BY RICHARDSON'S BALANCED, PATIENT AND DETAILED REPLIES,
AND EVEN MORE BY HIS EVEN-HANDED, QUASI-JUDICIAL
MANNER OF PRESENTING THE OPPOSED VIEWS OF THE
U.S. AND BRAZIL. RICHARDSON HAD TO CONTEND WITH EARLY
REPORTS THAT THE GOB WAS RECEIVING HIM
"COLDLY" (WHICH FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIED) AND HAD TO DEAL
CONTINUALLY WITH HIS POSITION AS A PARTIAL "ADVERSARY" OF BRAZIL, BUT
LEFT AMONG NEWSMEN THE IMPRESSION OF A CALM,
UNAGGRESSIVE ADVOCATE OF A WELL-REASONED POSITION
THAT HE HAD EXPLAINED EXHAUSTIVELY, AND WHICH THEY
IN TURN HAD TRANSMITTED TO THEIR READERS. THE
EDITORIALS ON LOS THAT APPEARED DURING THE RICHARDSON
VISIT SUPPORTED THE GOB POSITION, AS WAS TO BE
EXPECTED, BUT EXCEPT IN THE EXTREME NATIONALISTIC
PRESS, THERE WAS LITTLE EMOTIONAL DRUM-BEATING,
RATHER AN ATTEMPT TO PRESENT THE DIVERGENCIES REASONABLY,
IN THE SPIRIT OF THE VISITOR.
SAYRE

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